

CHAPTER 1021

Street Signs

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CROSS REFERENCES

Signs for snow emergency routes - see TRAF. 466.06

Naming of streets - see S.U. & P.S. Ch. 1020

Addressing of premises - see S.U. & P.S. Ch. 1026

Signs in parks and recreation areas - see S.U. & P.S. 1092.05

Firelane signs - see F.P. 1602.06(F-313.2.1 to F-313.2.3)

1021.01 PURPOSE AND INTENT; APPLICATION.

(a) This chapter is intended to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the public. To these ends the purpose and intent of this chapter are to:

- (1) Facilitate the provision of adequate public safety services;
- (2) Relieve conditions causing difficulty in locating properties and buildings for County agencies, the general public and others; and
- (3) Provide a uniform system of street signage throughout the County.

(b) This chapter shall apply to all areas of the County outside the corporate limits of towns. (Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-21-92.)

1021.02 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Department" means the Department of Building and Development.
- (b) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Building and Development, or his or her duly authorized agent.
- (c) "Facilities Standards Manual" means the Facilities Standards Manual of the County.
- (d) "Person" means any individual, corporation, cooperative, partnership, firm, association, trust, estate, private institution, group or agency, or any legal successor, representative, agent or agency thereof.
(Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-21-92.)
- (e) "Single-owner private access easement" means a private access easement serving more than one addressable structure where all such addressable structures are owned by one common owner, e.g. tenant houses on an estate subject to the rural addressing program. Property on a private road which has been subdivided, but on which lots have not been sold, shall not be considered a single-owner private access easement.
(Ord. 94-09. Passed 4-20-94.)

1021.03 INTERPRETATION, ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.

The Director shall be responsible for the interpretation, administration and enforcement of this chapter and shall have the necessary authority to ensure compliance herewith, including the issuance of violation notices and any other appropriate action.
(Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-21-92.)

1021.04 GENERAL STANDARDS.

(a) Each street in the County shall be identified by a sign showing the official name of such street. This section shall apply to public and private streets and ingress/egress easements providing access to five or more residential, commercial, industrial or other properties and/or addressable structures, except single-owner private access easements exempted under the provisions of Chapters 1020 and 1026.
(Ord. 94-09. Passed 4-20-94.)

(b) Signs identifying street names shall be placed at all intersections and shall identify both intersecting streets.

(c) An unnamed ingress/egress easement which provides direct access to two or fewer buildings and/or parcels shall be identified with a sign showing the range of such addresses. The address sign shall be posted at the location where the ingress/egress easement, and the street from which the buildings and parcels are addressed, intersect.

(d) Street name signs shall be uniform throughout the County and shall conform to the standards of the State Department of Transportation, except as otherwise provided in Sections 1021.06 and 1021.07.

(e) All street signs erected in the County after the date of enactment of this chapter shall conform to the provisions of Section 1021.05, except as otherwise provided in Sections 1021.06 and 1021.07.
(Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-21-92; Ord. 95-02. Passed 3-1-95.)

1021.05 DETAILED STANDARDS.

(a) Sizes of street signs shall be as follows:

(1) Standard size: secondary, rural and subdivision streets.

- A. The name plate shall be six inches in width.
- B. The letter size and type shall conform to "Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs," Series C, of the Bureau of Public Roads, and shall be four inches high for the street name and two inches high for abbreviation of the right-of-way designation. The letter series of the street name may be reduced from C to B if the use of Series C would require a sign blank longer than forty-two inches.
- C. The blank length to be used for a given street name shall be the shortest length on which the name will fit when four-inch letters are used, except that the length shall be a minimum of twenty-four inches. The maximum blank length will be forty-two inches, unless otherwise approved by the Director.

(2) Oversize: primary and other major secondary roads.

- A. Major secondary roads shall be as designated by the Director.
- B. The name plate shall be nine inches in width.
- C. The letter size and type shall conform to "Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs," Series C, of the Bureau of Public Roads, and shall be six inches high for the street name and three inches high for abbreviation of the right-of-way designation. The letter height of the street name may be reduced from six inches to five inches when the use of six-inch letters would require a sign blank longer than forty-eight inches.
- D. The blank length to be used for a given street name shall be the shortest length on which the name will fit when six-inch letters are used, except that the length shall be a minimum of thirty inches. The maximum blank length shall be forty-eight inches, unless otherwise approved by the Director.

(b) The blank name plate will be of the extruded type and consist of aluminum alloy, A.S.T.M. 2098-6063-T6, or its equivalent, treated with Alodine 1200 chemical conversion coating process, or its equivalent. The extruded blank name plate shall have a web of thickness of 0.090 and a flange thickness of 0.250, and each corner of the name blank shall be square cut. Holes shall be placed in the blank name plate as detailed in Drawing A following the text of this chapter.

(c) The sign background shall be blue sheet reflective material, and letters shall be silver reflective sheeting, 3M brand, or its equivalent, conforming to the specifications for "Encapsulated Lens Reflective Sheeting for Traffic Control Signs," as specified in the Virginia Department of Transportation's "Road and Bridge Specifications", Section 701.02(e), and as specified in Federal Specification LS300C, Reflectivity 2, and conforming to specifications on file with the County Director, or an approved equal. The specification on file contains a sheeting manufacturer's field performance and replacement obligation. The reflective material shall be applied to both sides of the treated blank name plate with mechanical equipment in a manner specified by the sheeting manufacturer. The sign background shall be comprised of not more than one piece of reflective sheeting. Reverse screen process color method of fabrication is acceptable, provided that only process colors approved by the sheeting manufacturer are used. Screen process colors must be clear coated.

(d) Sign posts shall be of fourteen gauge galvanized two-inch sheet tube. The base unit will be of twelve gauge galvanized two and one-fourth inch by two and one-fourth inch steel tubing. The base unit will be installed twenty-seven inches in ground with a maximum of three inches above the ground to mount the two-inch by two-inch post, as detailed in Drawing B following the text of this chapter. The signs shall be nonrotating.

(e) The extruded street name plates shall be mounted to the sign post by means of a post to sign (post top) bracket and sign to sign (cross) bracket made of high strength die-cast aluminum alloy number 380 having a tensile strength of 49,000 psi. The post top and cross brackets shall have two angled gussets on ribs on each side for extra strength and shall be smoothly finished and free of holes, pits or flaws.

Each set of brackets shall be drilled and tapped to receive six, each, 5/16 - 18-1/2 inch twelve-point spline head bolts, and four, each, 5/16 - 18-3/8 inch hex-head set screws with 5/32 inch center pin, made of either stainless steel, zinc or cadmium plated steel. Post top and cross brackets shall be cast or machined to receive extruded blades with a 0.090 web and a 0.250 flange thickness. Six vandalproof twelve-point spline head bolts and four hex-head set screws with center pin shall be furnished with each set of brackets. The complete unit shall be rigidly fastened together and shall be theft proof when fastened to the post.

(f) The shorter name plate sign shall be mounted above the longer name plate in the assembly.

(g) The bottom of the lowest street name plate shall be ten feet above ground level, except at signalized intersections. At signalized intersections, the bottom of the lowest street name plate shall be at least sixteen feet above ground level, detailed in Drawing B and Drawing C following the text of this chapter.

(h) At signalized intersections, street name signs for both streets will be installed on all vertical supports for traffic signals. Signs will be mounted with standard aluminum cantilevered pole mounted street name brackets as herein provided:

- (1) The brackets shall be cast of high-strength aluminum alloy or an approved noncorrosive alternative, degreased, tumbled and polished to a low-sheen smooth finish to ensure resistance to the accumulation of dirt and weather-borne deposits which might wash down upon the street name sign blades and cause premature defacement of the sign.
- (2) The brackets shall be "L" shaped in design, with one leg of the L being seven and one-fourth inches long and intended for attachment to the upright support, and the other leg being fourteen and one-half inches long and intended to cantilever out from the support to provide bracing for the sign against both vertical and lateral forces. The design of the bracket shall make it suitable either for nailing, screwing or banding to wood supports, or for bolting or banding to metal supports. The leg for attachment to the support shall be equipped with three-eighths inch holes one-inch on center, or multiples thereof, to match standard spacing of holes in channel posts.
- (3) The bracket shall be designed to accept and support the sign in the angle of the L, and each leg of the L shall have an integrally cast block, containing a vertical slot with minimum dimensions one inch long, one inch deep and 0.140 inch wide for securing the sign blade to the bracket.
- (4) The sides of all slots shall be solid metal with two holes per slot (both on the same side of the same slot), drilled and tapped to accept two special sawtooth heat-treated plated steel fasteners 5/16 inch - 18UNC-2B for securing the sign blades against removal from the slots by vandalism and to minimize fatigue failures in the sign blade resulting from wind vibration. The side of each slot opposite the set screws shall be case or machined accurately vertical to ensure that, when installed, the sign assembly will not appear to be bent or askew.

(i) For examples of standard details, see Appendix I, Drawings A through C, at the end of this chapter.
(Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-21-92.)

1021.06 SIGNS IN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DISTRICTS.

All street name signs within a National Historic Landmark District may be exempt from the provisions of Section 1021.05, provided that the following apply:

- (a) The signs and signposts within such Districts comply with the design shown in Drawings D and E following the text of this chapter.
- (b) No additional public expense is incurred beyond the cost of the standard street signs as provided in Section 1021.06.
(Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-21-92.)

1021.07 EXEMPTIONS FOR PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS OR SUBDIVISIONS.

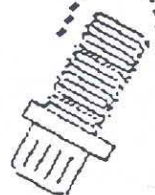
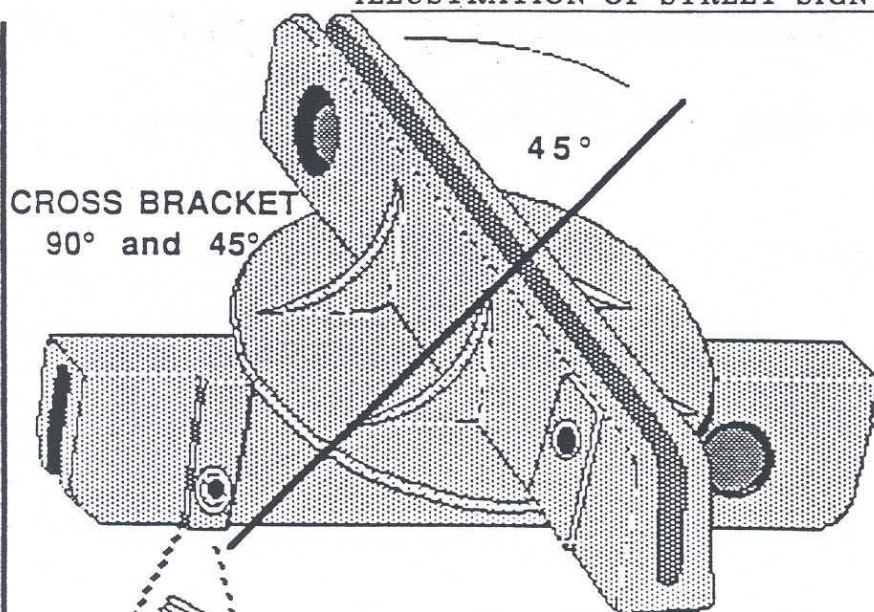
Upon application by the developer of any planned development or subdivision, the Director may permit reasonable variations from the provisions of Section 1021.05 relating to the type, style and materials for sign posts and brackets to be installed and maintained within such development or subdivision, provided that the following apply:

- (a) Such sign posts and brackets shall be uniform throughout such development or subdivision.
- (b) No additional public expense shall be incurred beyond the cost of the standard sign posts and brackets as provided in Section 1021.05.
- (c) The developer shall provide assurance satisfactory to the Director, by written agreement or otherwise, that:
 - (1) A reasonable supply of such sign posts and brackets and all required accessory hardware shall be provided in advance to the Department to enable the Department to make immediate repairs or replacements, when needed, at such time as the County becomes responsible for such repair or replacement; and
 - (2) Any failure to provide such advance supply of sign posts, brackets or hardware to the Department shall entitle the County thereafter to install the standard sign posts and brackets, as provided in Section 1021.05, whenever such sign posts or brackets require repair or replacement.
(Ord. 95-02. Passed 3-1-95.)

1021.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
(Ord. 92-01. Passed 1-21-92.)

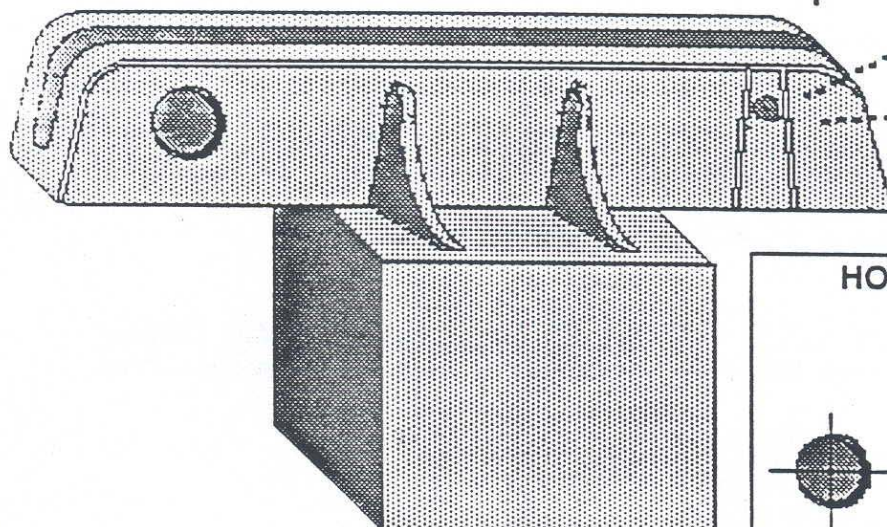
APPENDIX I
ILLUSTRATION OF STREET SIGN STANDARDS



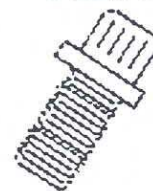
1/2" CLEARANCE HOLE ON OPPOSITE
SIDES FOR PERFECT ALIGNMENT WITH
VANDAL-PROOF BOLTS

5 1/2"

POST TOP BRACKET



VANDAL-PROOF
SPLINE HEAD BOLT
WITH SHOULDER STOPS
TO KEEP SIGN FROM
WIGGLING



VANDAL-PROOF HEX
HEAD SET
SCREW WITH CENTER PIN



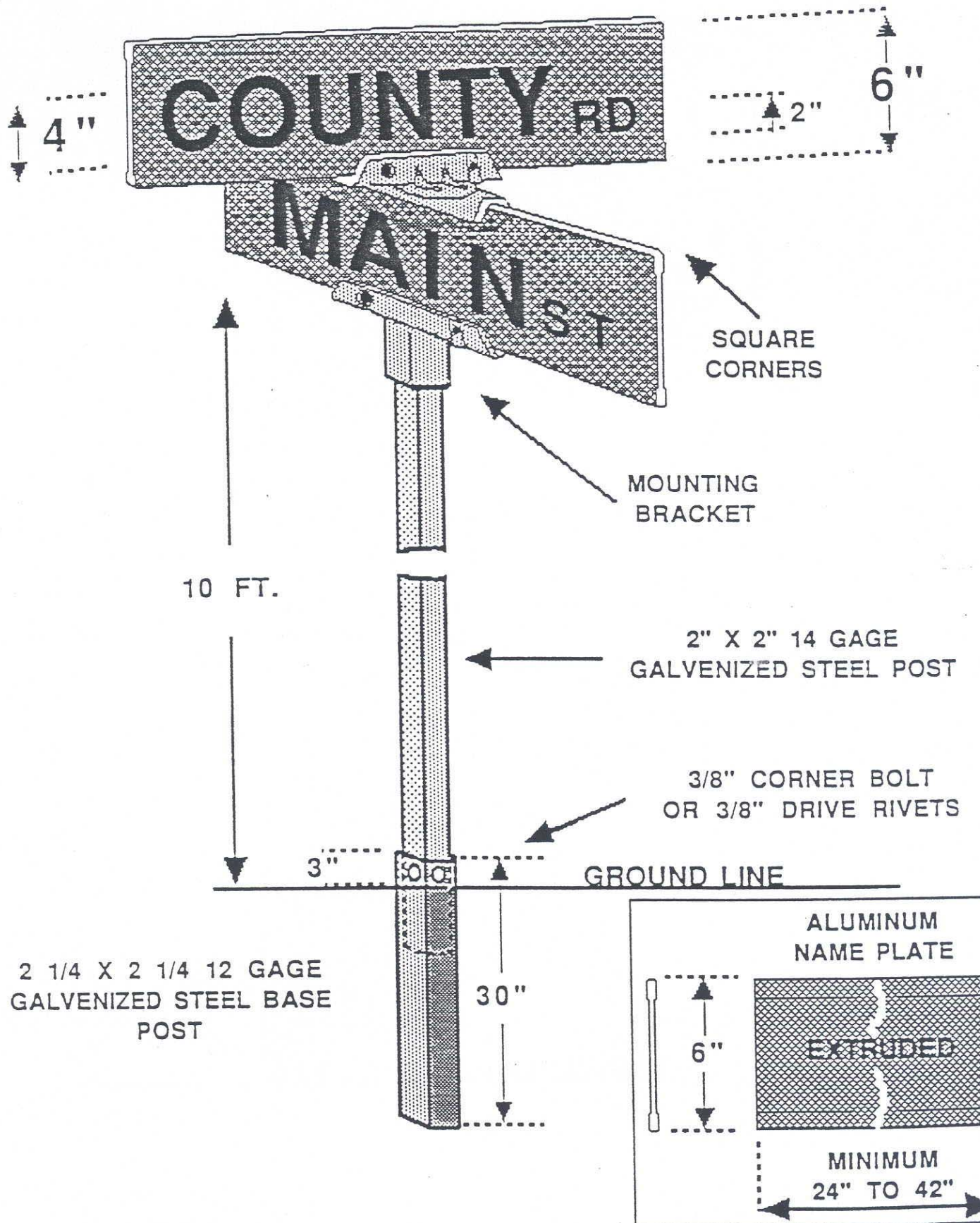
HOLE DETAIL FOR EXTRUDED
STREETNAME PLATE
(NOT TO SCALE)



LOUDOUN COUNTY

Standard Aluminum Street Name Sign Bracket and Plate

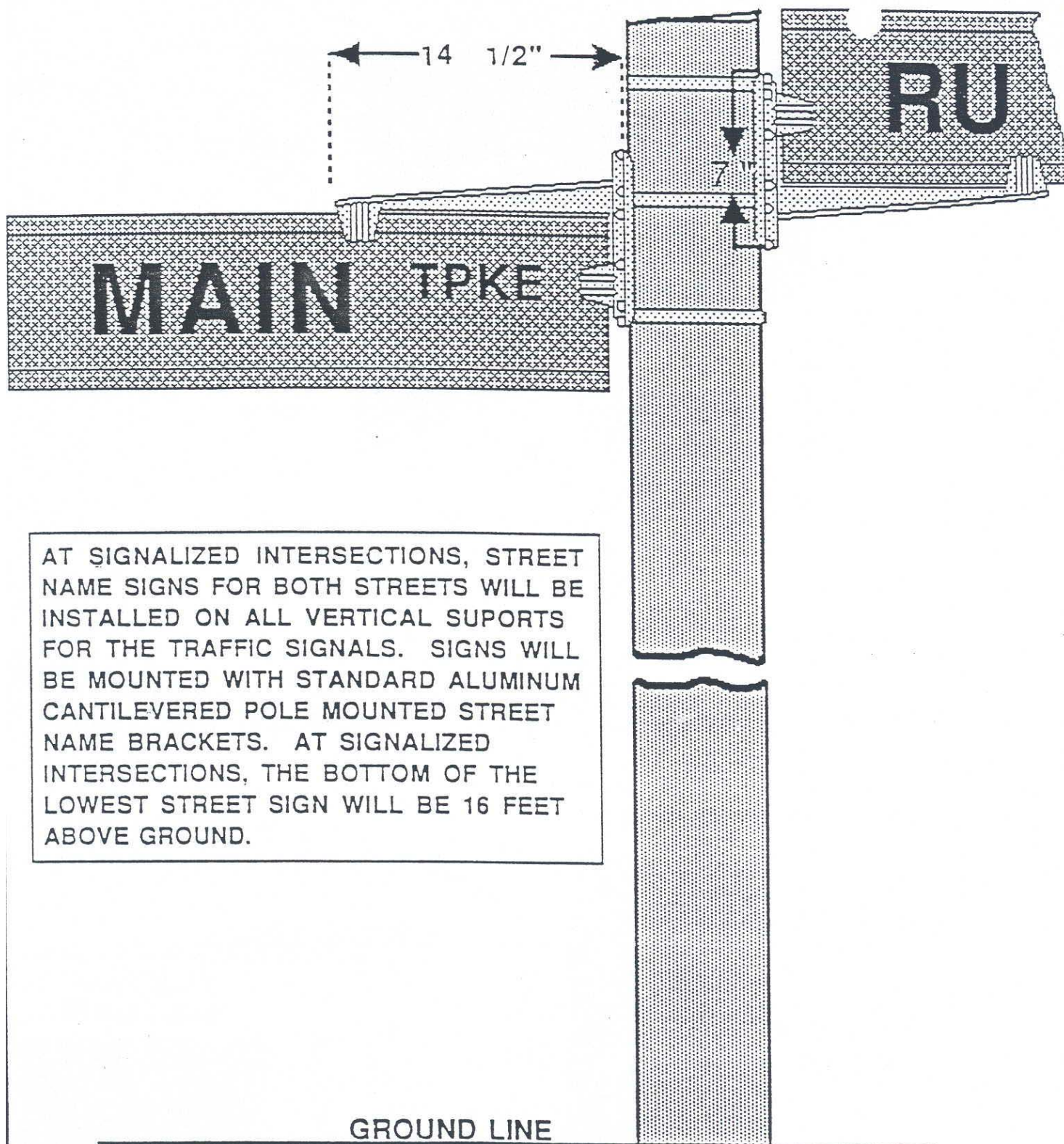
Drawing
A



LOUDOUN COUNTY

Standard Street Name SignPost Mounted

Drawing
B



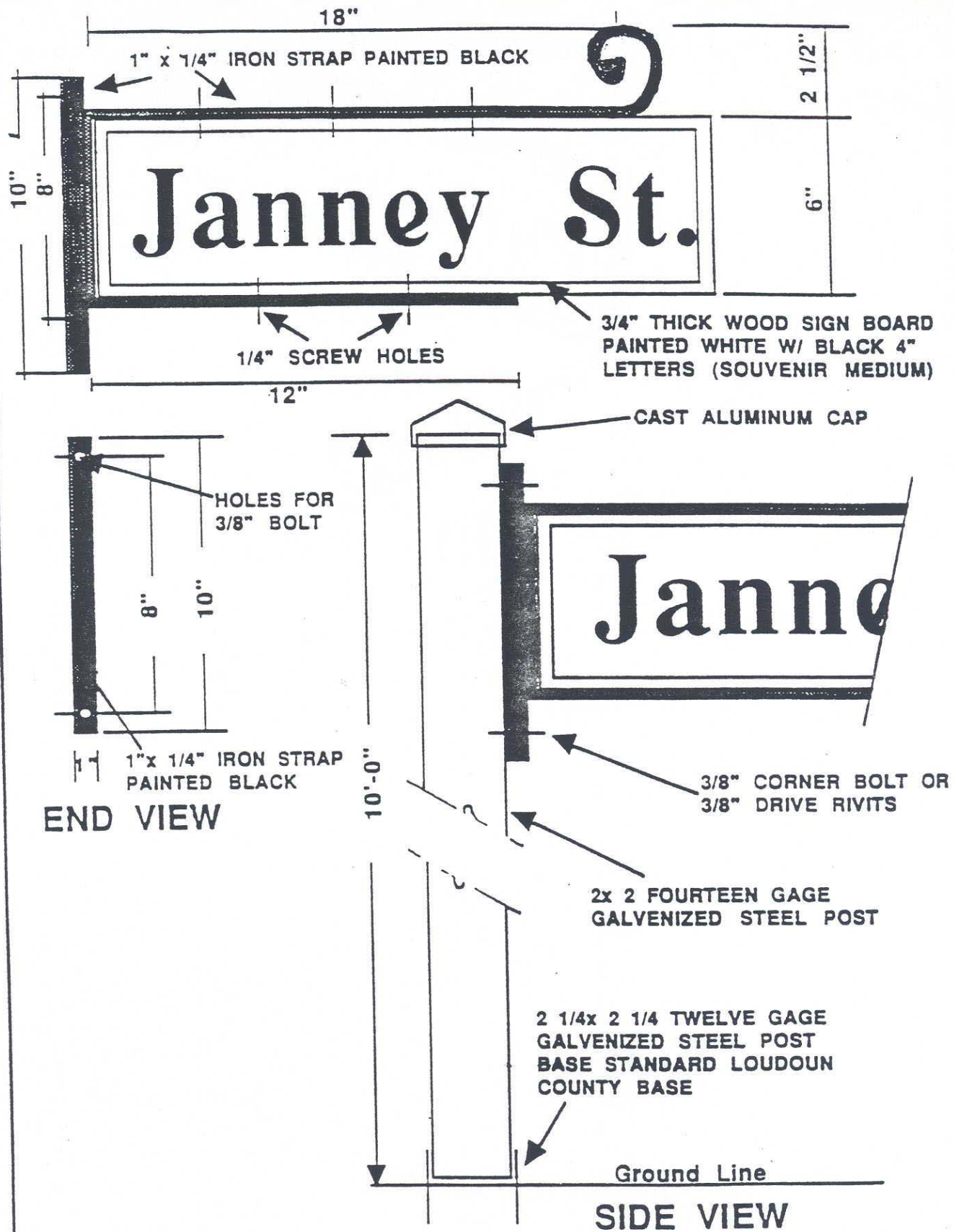
AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS, STREET NAME SIGNS FOR BOTH STREETS WILL BE INSTALLED ON ALL VERTICAL SUPPORTS FOR THE TRAFFIC SIGNALS. SIGNS WILL BE MOUNTED WITH STANDARD ALUMINUM CANTILEVERED POLE MOUNTED STREET NAME BRACKETS. AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS, THE BOTTOM OF THE LOWEST STREET SIGN WILL BE 16 FEET ABOVE GROUND.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Standard Aluminum Cantilevered
Pole Mounted Street Name Wing Bracket

Drawing

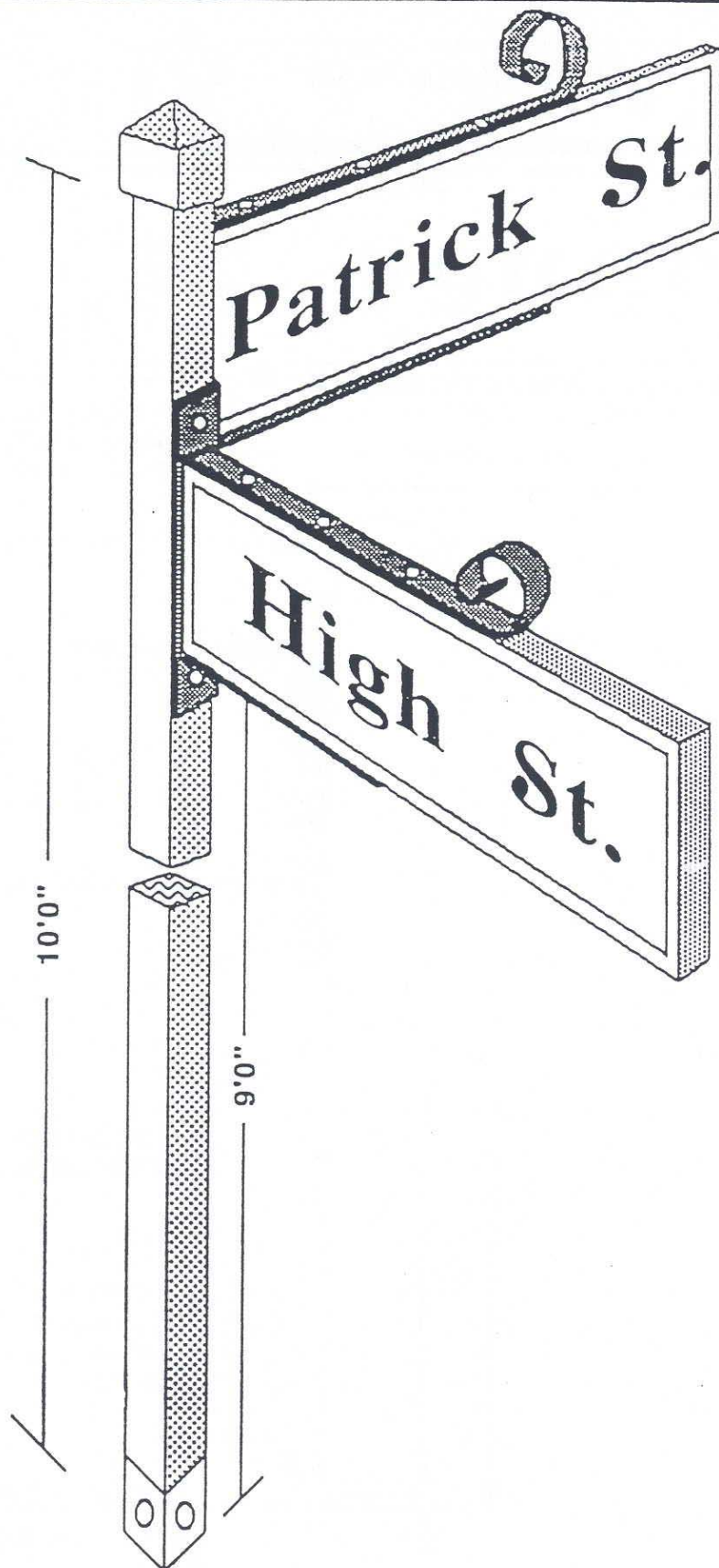
C



LOUDOUN COUNTY

National Historic Landmark District Street Sign Detail

Drawing
D



LOUDOUN COUNTY

National Historic Landmark District Street Sign

Drawing
E